

SPECIFICATION

Radio controlled time piece and method of controlling same BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a radio controlled time piece and a method for controlling same, and more particularly to a radio controlled time piece and control method which not limits electrical power consumption, but also maintains the 10 precise time information at all times.

Background Art

A time piece configured to receive a radio wave signal including time information and automatically correct the time 15 to the precise time has already been practically developed. Additionally, radio wave signals (hereinafter referred to as standard radio wave signals) which include standard time information for use in a radio wave signal controlled watch are transmitted, for example, in a number of countries, such as 20 Japan, US, Germany, UK, and China and the like.

The frequency and transmitted data format of the above noted radio wave signals, which include time information, differ.

A radio controlled time piece, such as noted above, in 25 general can be classified as a time piece of the type in which forced reception operation is performed by a user, or a time piece of the type that performs a time-programmed operation. In a forced reception operation, the user, as necessary, operates a prescribed external input means, such as a switch, a 30 button, a stem or the like, so as to forcibly receive a standard radio wave signal that includes the above-noted time information. A time piece of the type that performs the time-programmed operation uses a set program of conditions that is pre-determined, based on the timekeeping information value of a 35 timekeeping means reaching a prescribed value, whereby automatic time correction is performed by receiving the